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March 18, 2020

The Honorable Greg Abbott, Governor, State of Texas State Capitol, 2S.1 Austin, Texas 78711

Dear Governor Abbott:

As Texas grapples with the Coronavirus outbreak, I respectfully urge you to consider helping Texas homeowners by helping them remain safe in their homes.

As Senator of District 27, I have heard from concerned residents, former municipal officials, and business owners who believe that as we live through this outbreak, we should do everything in our power to provide homeowners as well as business owners certainty that they will have the necessary financial resources to overcome this public health crisis.

Respectfully, on behalf of thousands of homeowners and business owners, I ask that as families struggle to keep safe and healthy in their homes, and business owners struggle to maintain their businesses afloat, that you consider working with appropriate taxing authorities to ensure that property taxes are frozen to 2018 levels and waive penalties for late payment. Workers are facing the impossible decision between protecting the public health by staying home from their jobs or making enough money to pay the bills. Increased property taxes, even with the reforms the Legislature made last session, can make this decision even more difficult.

I implore that you please use all necessary powers and work with appropriate taxing authorities to safeguard the homes and businesses of our constituents. A carefully tailored solution as this would go a long way in providing hundreds of thousands of homeowners and businesses - wondering how long this crisis will last - some peace of mind.

Respectfully,

Eddie Lucio, Jr. State Senator

